

October 7, 2015 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Susan Smith Community Relations Manager (614) 525-5227

Franklin County Dog Shelter & Adoption Center Celebrates "Adopt A Dog Month" with record numbers and \$18 adoptions

Columbus, Ohio – Wednesday, 10/7/15 Through Sunday, the Adoption Center is offering adoptions for only \$18, the cost of the county dog license! With more than 100 dogs and puppies available, and more on the way, there is a wide variety to choose from.

There's no shortage of puppy love at the Dog Shelter. With nearly 300 dogs in residence, the shelter is at maximum capacity and urgently needs to reduce overcrowding. Despite record-breaking adoptions for five consecutive months, it's a constant challenge keeping up with the influx of new lost dogs and turn-ins.

The shelter is one of the busiest in the state, taking in approximately 10,000 unwanted dogs and puppies each year. Pet overpopulation is a continuing community issue in the U.S. In recognition of this fact, October has been designated "Adopt A Dog Month" by the American Humane Association.

And for those considering getting a dog, the decision to ADOPT a new friend from The Franklin County Dog Shelter is really a great deal. The medical services alone would cost several hundred dollars if purchased elsewhere. Dogs and puppies have already been spayed or neutered (\$150-\$200 value), heartworm tested and on preventative care (\$50 value), given immunizations for rabies, distemper, parvo, parainfluenza, bordatella (\$45 value), microchipped (\$50 value) and licensed (\$18).

In addition, the dog leaves the shelter with a new collar and leash, plus volunteers at the shelter provide **free basic training classes** for new adopters at the shelter every Monday evening. This October, more than 77 area veterinarians have also joined the shelter in supporting "Adopt A Dog Month" by offering new adopters a **FREE wellness exam** when they adopt a shelter dog.

This October, come meet your new best friend at the Franklin County Dog Shelter. An older dog, a young puppy, or a middle-aged mixed-breed can help improve your own life by bringing love, loyalty, and affection to your family. Your new dog will offer you years of happiness and love. You can provide the same. Spend quality time with your new friend to see what a wonderful difference a dog or puppy can make in your life!

Franklin County Dog Shelter is the largest municipal animal shelter in Ohio. Last year the shelter adopted out more than 3,100 dogs and performed more than 4,000 spay or neuter surgeries. All dogs and puppies adopted from the shelter have already been fixed. No cost surgery is also available for dogs not adopted from the shelter as a community service. For more information about getting your dog fixed, please call 525-5454. www.FranklinCountyDogs.com

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